

Message Text

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SUBJ: CULCON VII

SUMMARY: INFORMATION ON CONFERENCE PLANNING AND
PROGRESS ON PROJECTS FOR POSSIBLE USE WHEN U.S.
DELEGATION MEETS APRIL 12.

FOLLOWING IS REVIEW OF PROGRESS ON CERTAIN PROJECTS
AND PLANNING FOR CULCON VII WHICH EMBASSY HOPES WILL
BE USEFUL FOR U.S. DELEGATION MEETING APRIL 12.

1. PANEL DISCUSSION SUBJECTS:

A. MUSEUM EXCHANGES. EDUCATION MINISTRY'S
CULTURAL AFFAIRS AGENCY (BUNKACHO) FINDS REPORT OF
U.S. SUBCOMMITTEE USEFUL BASIS FOR CULCON DISCUSSION.
NO SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FROM JAPANESE SIDE AT THIS TIME.
UNOFFICIAL BUNKACHO OPINION IS THAT JAPANESE MUSEUM
AUTHORITIES WILL BE SOMEWHAT DEFENSIVE BECAUSE OF ISSUES
WHICH BOTHER AMERICANS. HOWEVER, JAPANESE SIDE WILL BE
PREPARED TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS IN U.S. REPORT AND KINDS OF
EXHIBITIONS TO BE SOUGHT. BUNKACHO HOPES FOR BICENTENNIAL
EXHIBITION FROM U.S.

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B. EDUCATION. MOMBUSHO AWAITING REVISED VERSION

SECOND STAGE OF JOINT PROGRAM. MOMBUSHO WOULD STILL WELCOME OPPORTUNITY FOR JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING PRIOR TO CULCON, ESPECIALLY TO PLAN JOINT PROGRAM FIRST PHASE CONFERENCE LATER THIS YEAR AND PREPARE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CULCON ADOPTION. JAPANESE SIDE WILL BE ABLE TO PRESENT REPORTS TO CULCON DISCUSSION PANELS ON NATIONAL POLICY AND CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS AND EXCHANGE OF TEACHERS.

C. AMERICAN STUDIES. (1) SHIGEHARU MATSUMOTO WILL CO-CHAIR FOR JAPANESE SIDE, MAKOTO SAITO REPORTING. EXPECT BICENTENNIAL TO BE A MAJOR TOPIC. IF ROBIN WINKS WISHES TO OBTAIN JAPANESE REACTION TO BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS THEY SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE SO JAPANESE SIDE CAN DISCUSS TOGETHER AND DECIDE ON RESPONSE.

(2) U.S. JAPAN CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN STUDIES SPECIALISTS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO BROADENING OF JAPANESE AMERICAN STUDIES SCHOLARS AND PERHAPS LEAD TO ADDITIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS. PROFESSOR SAITO SUGGESTS THAT IF SUCH A CONFERENCE WERE HELD IT SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO SOME ASPECT OF U.S. HISTORY OR BACKGROUND BUT DEAL WITH GENERAL STATUS OF AMERICAN STUDIES IN JAPAN AND U.S.

(3) USEC/J STILL MAJOR SUPPORT FOR AMERICAN STUDIES. WITH NEW INITIATIVES TOWARDS INSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENTS THERE MAY BE EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES FOR USEC/J AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS. USEC/J WILL PREPARE BRIEF REPORT ON AMERICAN STUDIES SUPPORT INCLUDING SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO INSTITUTIONAL INVITATIONS IF DEVELOPED BY TIME OF CULCON.

(4) UNDERGRADUATE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES UNDER WAY IN SEVERAL UNIVERSITIES AS ANTICIPATED.

(5) CULCON MIGHT ASK FORD FOUNDATION TO REPORT NEW PLANS.

D. JAPANESE STUDIES. NAOYA UCHIMURA IN CHARGE. JAPAN FOUNDATION WILL DESCRIBE PRESENT SUPPORT AND PROSPECTS. JIM MORLEY SUGGESTS U.S. SIDE REQUEST AN ASSESSMENT OF JAPANESE STUDIES IN U.S. FROM SOME KNOWLEDGEABLE JAPANESE SCHOLAR (SUCH AS ETO SHINKICHI).
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IF THERE IS SERIOUS INTEREST IN FOUNDATION INTERACTION, JAPAN FOUNDATION SHOULD BE QUERIED EARLY.

E. COMMUNICATIONS GAP AND MASS MEDIA. PROGRESS STILL SATISFACTORY ON TV FESTIVAL, PRESS EXCHANGES. PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTATION PROPOSAL NOT ADOPTED DUE TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM IN MOST NEWSPAPERS. HOWEVER, USIS HAS IDENTIFIED AND INCLUDED SEVERAL JAPANESE CORRESPONDENTS IN IV PROGRAM PRIOR TO ASSIGN-

MENT IN U.S. FULBRIGHT EXCHANGES FOR U.S. AND JAPANESE JOURNALISTS GOING WELL AND INCREASING, THOUGH SOME DIFFICULTIES ON U.S. SIDE IN FINDING ADEQUATE CANDIDATES. CULCON MAY WISH TO PROMOTE RECRUITING THROUGH JOURNALIST ORGANIZATIONS IN U.S.

NO NEW EFFORT TO IMPROVE POSITION OF FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS IN JAPAN IS NEEDED VIA CULCON CHANNEL. IN FACT, RECENT PROGRESS MIGHT BE SET BACK BY REHASHING OLD ISSUES.

FUKUSHIMA WILL LEAD JAPANESE DISCUSSION GROUP. HE QUESTIONS CHOICE OF TOPIC WHICH, HE THINKS, IMPLIES MEDIA TO BLAME FOR COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS AND WILL REFUTE THIS AT PANEL DISCUSSION.

REPORT ON FLETCHER SCHOOL AND KEIO UNIVERSITY PROJECT IN COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH MAY BE APPROPRIATE.

2. ADDITIONAL TOPICS AND OPERATIONAL MATTERS SEPTTEL.
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